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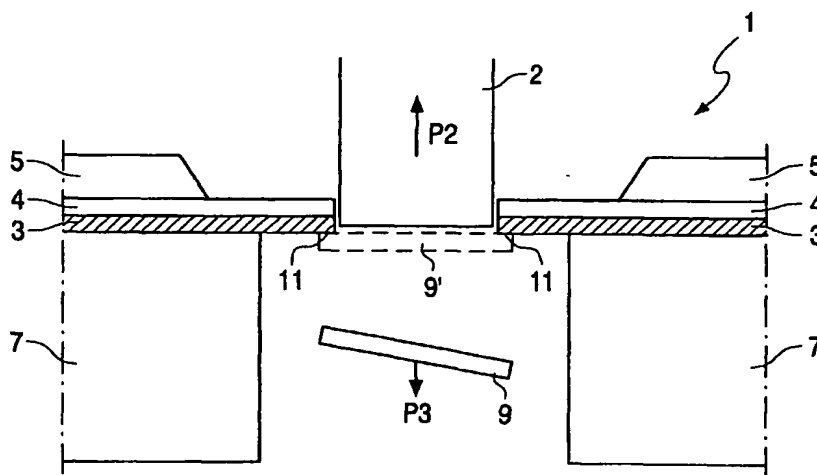
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**(54) Title: METHOD FOR RELEASING SLUG AFTER PUNCHING, AND PUNCHING METHOD THEREFOR**



(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to a method for releasing slug (9, 15, 25) adhering to a stamp (2, 24) in a punching machine, by carrying the stamp (2, 24), after performing a punching operation on a sheet material (4), with the active stroke at least partially through a cutting opening (6) in a cutting plate (3, 13, 21) supporting the sheet material (4), and carrying the stamp (2, 24) during the return stroke back again through the cutting opening (6) in the cutting plate (3, 13, 21) which close-fittingly encloses the stamp (2, 24). The invention also relates to a punching machine (1, 12, 17, 22) for releasing slug (9, 15, 25) adhering to a stamp (2, 24) according to this method.

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